Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

Office of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501
406.444.3095
888.231.9393
406.444.0169 (TTY)
opi.mt.gov

MEMORANDUM

To:	System Test Coordinators, Superintendents, Principals, Title III Directors, and Educators who serve ELLs
From:	OPI Assessment Division
Date:	August 11, 2014

Re: Field Test participants needed for the English Language Proficiency Test—WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0—Field Test

- In 2015-16, the current paper/pencil English Language Proficiency Test, WIDA: ACCESS for ELLs) will be replaced by an online assessment, ACCESS for ELLs 2.0. The development of ACCESS for ELLs 2.0. is managed through an ASSETTS Grant. The link to information on the grant is included in the list of resources below.
- As a member of the WIDA consortium, Montana has the opportunity to participate in the Listening portion of the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 field test.
  NOTE: Schools may also elect to participate in field testing for the speaking and writing portions of the field test.
- Montana educators are invited and encouraged to participate.
  Below are more details.

Details:

> **Who:** All districts with English Language Learners are encouraged to participate
>
> **When:** December 15, 2014-April 10, 2015
>
> - Field Test must happen after the Paper/Pencil Operational ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Test in a system or school.
>
> **What:** ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Field Testing in the portions that still need volunteers:
>
> - Listening (Montana has been identified to participate in a scientific sample)
> - Reading
> - Possible selected grades and tiers in Writing and Speaking
>
> **Administration Time:** Maximum 1 hour per portion

- **Technology Requirements:**
  - Security-Lockdown capability
  - Operating System Windows-Window XP SP3 Minimum; Windows 7 recommended
  - Operating System Mac-Current release of Mac OS X 10.6 Minimum; Mac OS X 10.7 recommended

The Montana Office of Public Instruction provides vision, advocacy, support, and leadership for schools and communities to ensure that all students meet today's challenges and tomorrow's opportunities.

- o Operating System Linux- Ubuntu 12.04 32 and 64 bit with Gnome 3.4, with Unity shell
- o Memory-512 MB minimum; 1GB recommended
- o Processor Speed-1Ghz
- o Screen size-9.5 + inch
- o Screen resolution- 800-600
- o Input Devices-keyboard, mouse, headphones, earphones, microphones
- o Chromebooks and tablets cannot be supported on the field test
- o **Headsets:**
  - For information regarding headsets for the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Speaking test, please review the Recommendations for Purchasing Headsets PDF document.
  - WIDA will provide the recommended kind and number of headsets to districts that request assistance.

Field Test Benefits:
- Gain experience with ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 online before it is used for accountability purposes
- Provide feedback on the assessment.
- Ensure test quality.
- Any district that has two years of ACCESS for ELLs test data will receive a copy of the ACCESS for ELLs Growth Report (about a $200 value). See www.wida.us/accessgrowthreports.

Resources:
ASSETS Grant Website with more information:
http://assetsproject.org/implementation/operational.aspx#testPrep

ACCESS for ELLs Overview Webinar Recording:
http://assetsproject.org/implementation/ACCESS2.0Webinar/presentation.html

Thank you for considering participation in the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Field Test.

For further information and/or to register to participate in the field test contact:
Yvonne Field, OPI Assessment Specialist, 406-444-0748, yfield@mt.gov